



HALESWORTH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

A N N U A L   R E P O R T S

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

SURVEYOR/PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1967

Medical Officer of Health

ARTHUR C. GEE, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Surveyor/Public Health Inspector

F.W.Y. BUCKLEY, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.



HALESWORTH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

DR. ARTHUR C GEE, M.R.C.S.,  
L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Town Hall,  
Halesworth.

Medical Officer of Health.

To: The Chairman and Members of the  
Halesworth Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the health of your district for the year 1967.

The period under review, covers for the most part, the last year or so, of your previous Medical Officer's term of service, and it is thus inappropriate for me to make more than brief comment on this report. May I however, take this opportunity of expressing my appreciation to you for having agreed to my appointment as your Medical Officer.

There has been a further increase of the population from 2,660 in 1966 to 2,760 in 1967. The previous year's increase was one of 90 persons. This is certainly an encouraging trend. The Live Birth rate is 18.8., which exceeds the national figure of 17.2. The main cause of death was those diseases affecting the heart and circulation. Death from malignant disease does not appear to be unduly high. No infectious disease was notified, other than Measles, of which only five cases were notified. The total number of cases of Tuberculosis within the district was 10 only, one more than the previous year.

I have the honour to be,  
Your obedient Servant,

ARTHUR C. GEE,

Medical Officer of Health.

August, 1968.

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# GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres).....	1,107
Registrar-General's estimate of population (mid-1967).....	2,760
Number of inhabited houses (estimated).....	1,051
Rateable Value.....	£36,823
Product of Penny Rate (estimated).....	£340

	Halesworth Urban District	England & Wales
<u>LIVE BIRTHS</u>		
Number .....	52	832,000
Rate per 1,000 population.....	18.8	17.2
<u>ILLEGITIMATE LIVE BIRTHS</u> per cent of total live births.	3.8	-
<u>STILLBIRTHS</u>		
Number.....	1	12,500
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	.19	14.8
<u>TOTAL LIVE AND STILLBIRTHS</u> .....	53	-
<u>INFANT DEATHS</u> (deaths under 1 year).....	Nil	-
<u>INFANT MORTALITY RATES</u>		
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births.....	Nil	-
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births.....	Nil	18.3
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births.....	Nil	-
<u>NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE</u> (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births).....	Nil	12.5
<u>EARLY NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE</u> (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 live births).....	Nil	10.8
<u>PERINATAL MORTALITY RATE</u> (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births)	Nil	25.4
<u>MATERIAL MORTALITY</u> (including abortion)		
Number of deaths .....	Nil	-
Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths.....	Nil	0.16



# VITAL STATISTICS

LIVE BIRTHS	Male	Female	TOTAL
TOTAL.....	30	22	52
Legitimate.....	30	20	50
Illegitimate.....	-	2	2

STILL BIRTHS	Male	Female	TOTAL
TOTAL.....	-	1	1
Legitimate.....	-	1	1
Illegitimate.....	-	-	-

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE	Male	Female	TOTAL
TOTAL.....	-	-	-
Legitimate.....	-	-	-
Illegitimate.....	-	-	-

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 4 WEEKS OF AGE	Male	Female	TOTAL
TOTAL.....	-	-	-
Legitimate.....	-	-	-
Illegitimate.....	-	-	-

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 WEEK OF AGE	Male	Female	TOTAL
TOTAL.....	-	-	-
Legitimate.....	-	-	-
Illegitimate.....	-	-	-

	Male	Female	TOTAL
DEATHS - ALL AGES.....	20	20	40

# R A T E S

	Halesworth Urban District	England & Wales
Adjusted Birth Rate .....	21.24	-
Death rate per 1,000 estimated population.....	14.5	11.2
Adjusted Death rate.....	14.79	-

Comparability Factor (Births)..... 1.13  
 " " (Deaths)..... 1.02

## CAUSES OF INFANT DEATHS

Sex	Age	Cause of Deaths
-	-	Nil

## CAUSES OF DEATH

CAUSES OF DEATH	Male	Female	TOTAL
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory.....	-	-	-
2. Tuberculosis, other.....	-	-	-
3. Syphilitic disease.....	-	-	-
4. Diphtheria.....	-	-	-
5. Whooping cough.....	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal infections.....	-	-	-
7. Acute poliomyelitis.....	-	-	-
8. Measles.....	-	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases.....	-	-	-
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach.....	-	-	-
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus.....	1	1	2
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast.....	-	-	-
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus.....	-	-	-
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasm.....	2	4	6
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia.....	1	-	1
16. Diabetes.....	-	-	-
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system.....	3	2	5
18. Coronary disease, angina.....	8	3	11
19. Hypertension with heart disease.....	1	2	3
20. Other heart disease.....	1	4	5
Carried forward	17	16	33

CAUSES OF DEATH		Male	Female	TOTAL
Brought forward...		17	16	33
21.	Other circulatory diseases.....	2	-	2
22.	Influenza.....	-	2	2
23.	Pneumonia.....	-	-	-
24.	Bronchitis.....	-	-	-
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system.....	-	1	1
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum.....	1	-	1
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea.....	-	-	-
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis.....	-	-	-
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate.....	-	-	-
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion.....	-	-	-
31.	Congenital malformations.....	-	-	-
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases.....	-	-	-
33.	Motor Vehicle accidents.....	-	-	-
34.	All other accidents.....	-	1	1
35.	Suicide.....	-	-	-
36.	Homicide and operations of war.....	-	-	-
		20	20	40

#### ADJUSTED BIRTH AND DEATH RATE : COMPARABILITY FACTOR

Local birth rates are expressed in terms of population. These populations are estimated by the Registrar-General and comprise persons of all ages, including those who have no influence on the birth rate. These latter do, however, affect the birth rate in that a high proportion of them in a population tends to lower, and a small proportion tends to raise the true rate. The size of this proportion will vary in different areas and, therefore, the elimination or standardization of such a factor will give a truer comparison between areas.

The Registrar-General issues a comparability factor on these lines. Multiplication of the crude birth rate of an area by the comparability factor gives the adjusted birth rate and can be compared with the crude rate for England and Wales.

The comparability factor for deaths is obtained in a similar way to the above. The factors for certain areas, where rapid increase or reduction in the population materially affects its comparison by sex and age groups, are also adjusted on that account. Death rate area comparability factors are adjusted to take account of the presence of any residential institutions in each area. Birth rate area comparability factors are also adjusted to take account of the presence of sterile populations in institutions for the mentally ill or mentally deficient.



TABLE SHOWING THE MORE IMPORTANT CAUSES OF DEATH, NUMBERS AND PERCENTAGES

CAUSE OF DEATH	NO. OF DEATHS		PERCENTAGE	
	1966	1967	1966	1967
Diseases of circulatory system.....	7	22	22.5	55.0
Vascular lesions of nervous system.....	5	5	16.1	12.5
Malignant diseases.....	5	8	16.1	20.0
Pneumonia and Bronchitis.....	8	-	25.8	-
Influenza.....	-	2	-	5.0
All other causes.....	6	3	19.3	7.5
TOTAL .....	31	40	99.8	100.0

In 1967, 87.5% of all deaths fell under the first three headings. The comparable figure for 1966 was 54.7% and for 1965 was 76.6%.

COMPARATIVE STATISTICS

	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967
Population.....	2330	2350	2350	2400	2250	2290	2340	2440	2570	2660	2760
No. of inhabited houses..	761	752	768	798	803	837	869	931	977	1042	1051
No. of Live Births.....	45	26	37	39	30	36	30	36	40	41	52
Birth Rate (crude).....	19.3	11.0	15.7	16.25	13.3	15.7	12.7	14.7	15.56	15.4	18.8
No. of Still Births.....	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	1
Maternal Mortality.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Infant Mortality Rate....	0	0	0	0	0	27.7	66.6	27.7	0	0	0
(No. of Deaths).....	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(1)	(2)	(1)	(-)	(-)	(-)
No. of Deaths (All ages).	25	21	19	26	22	27	34	28	30	31	40
Death Rate (crude).....	10.7	8.9	8.0	10.83	9.8	11.7	14.5	11.5	11.67	11.6	14.5

Infectious Diseases  
Number of all confirmed cases of Infectious and other notifiable  
Diseases notified during the year 1967 according to age and sex

AGE	Measles		
	Male	Female	TOTAL
Under 1.....	-	1	1
1 - .....	-	-	-
2 - .....	2	-	2
3 - .....	1	-	1
4 - .....	-	-	-
5 - 9 .....	-	1	1
10 - 14 .....	-	-	-
15 - 24 .....	-	-	-
25 - 44 .....	-	-	-
45 - 64 .....	-	-	-
65 or over .....	-	-	-
TOTAL .....	3	2	5

Diseases notified during the year, classified according to month of  
occurrence

Month	Measles
January.....	-
February.....	-
March.....	1
April.....	-
May.....	3
June.....	1
July.....	-
August.....	-
September.....	-
October.....	-
November.....	-
December.....	-
TOTAL.....	5

# TUBERCULOSIS

	Males		Females		TOTAL
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	
No. of cases on the Register at 31st December, 1966.....	2	1	6	-	9
No. of cases added during the year.....	-	1	-	1	2
No. of cases removed during the year.....	-	-	1	-	1
No. of cases on the Register at 31st December, 1967.....	2	2	5	1	10

CASES ADDED TO THE REGISTER		CASES REMOVED FROM THE REGISTER	
New notifications.....	2	Recovered.....	1
Inward transfers.....	-	Died.....	-
		Removed to other areas.....	-
TOTAL.....	2	TOTAL.....	1

## CASES ON THE REGISTER, ACCORDING TO AGE AND SEX AT 31st DECEMBER, 1967.

AGE GROUP	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Under 5 years.....	-	-	-
5 - 14 years.....	-	-	-
15 - 24 years.....	-	1	1
25 - 44 years.....	2	1	3
45 - 64 years.....	1	2	3
65 years and over.....	1	2	3
Age unknown.....	-	-	-
TOTAL.....	4	6	10



# REPORT OF THE SURVEYOR/PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR FOR

THE YEAR 1967

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Report for the year 1967.

## Water.

Water supply within the Urban District is under the control of the East Anglian Water Company. The principal sources of supply are from the boreholes at Holton and Walpole - these sources combine in a ring main to supply the towers at Bungay Road and London Road. The original source of supply, an artesian well in the grounds of the Pumping Station at Chediston Street, Halesworth, whilst not at present in use, could, I understand, be used in the event of an emergency.

17 Bacteriological samples and two chemical samples show that the water is very satisfactory for drinking and general purposes.

Number of Houses supplied directly from mains..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,034
Number of Shops supplied directly from mains ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	32
Number of Offices supplied directly from mains..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	13
Combined Business and dwelling premises supplied directly from the								
mains. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	42
								<hr/>
Total number of properties supplied with unmetered water ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,121
Number of Standpipes ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Number of Hoses ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	97
Number of Metered supplies. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	39
Number of houses not supplied from the main ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Number of Miscellaneous properties (Churches etc) ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	29

## Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

The work of enlarging the Sewage Works, situated off the Bramfield Road, Halesworth, was completed in July, 1967. These works, built during the 1939/1945 war serve, in addition to the Urban District of Halesworth, the villages of Wissett, Holton and Blyford, all in the Rural District of Wainford.

There can be no doubt that the additional treatment plant and alteration of the pumping arrangements at the Works have made a considerable contribution to the efficiency of the treatment of the sewage and to the running of the Works. Samples of effluent taken for analyses by the Norfolk and Suffolk River Board became increasingly satisfactory as the various sections of the plant were brought into use as they were completed and handed over by the Contractors, and it is in this connection that I would like to record the work of the Sewage Works Attendant, Mr. M. Newson, who, with his knowledge and interest in the whole project of enlarging the works, helped to devise some novel means of keeping the Works operating during periods of partial shut down under conditions made difficult due to the congestion on the site.



Concern is still felt regarding the views of some people concerning the proper use of sewers. The introduction of mechanical screening at the Works has given a very clear indication that there is still a small minority of people who appear to regard it as a wholesale disposal unit; it is also obvious that some of the articles found by the screen could not get through the ordinary traps of household drainage and one is left with the conclusion that they are introduced into the system at a point where the trapping system cannot operate. This practice can lead to a massive break-down with the consequent spending of considerable sums of money, and it should be realised that the practice is not only thoughtless but potentially dangerous.

Sludge burning has continued as have experiments in various types of burners to establish the most efficient means of carrying out this work. By a series of eliminating experiments the basic principles of sludge burning have now been established and the resultant saving in haulage cost, and the use of the ash as blinding material, filterant on the drying beds or as a soil additive for plant growth have had success in varying degrees.

There are now a very small number of pail closets in the Urban Area only two of which are in an area not served by sewers. The remainder are due to be eliminated as the houses to which they are attached are finally cleared.

During 1967 the new sewer to Bungay Road was laid and brought into use. The provision of this sewer went a considerable way to eliminating a large proportion of pail closets in addition to providing sewerage facilities for a large factory on the Bungay Road.

#### Public Cleansing.

A weekly collection of household refuse is made by the Council employing two men and one side loader refuse lorry. Disposal of refuse is by means of controlled tipping at Mells.

Refuse storage and collection has been the subject for consideration by a Committee set up by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government and there is no doubt that considerable work and research was carried out by this Committee and their findings, published in a report issued by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government is, in itself, a splendid piece of comparative analysis. I suspect however, that their plea for the desirability of a refuse collection service two, three or four times weekly, would reflect very seriously on the rates of any Authority. It is felt that perhaps a little time and money spent on educating some of the general public on the proper use of a dustbin, the use of paper as lining and the fact that lids are designed to be fitted on properly, might well result in lightening the burden of the collectors.

It is gratifying to know that a similar Committee has been set up to investigate matters of disposal of refuse. It is becoming increasingly obvious that the number of sites suitable for refuse disposal are fast running out. This factor is becoming more evident in the East Anglian area where existing pits from which sand and gravel are extracted are jealously guarded, any suggestion that any section of a pit which is worked out be used for refuse disposal meets with considerable protest or flat refusal, and yet the primary covering material for refuse in controlled tipping is purchased from these pits. In the circumstances it

would appear to be sound economic reasoning to suggest that the use of worked out sections of pits be used for such disposal. The alternatives are, the digging of pits which is a costly business or, even more costly, the formation of consortia of smaller Authorities in Rural and smaller Urban areas for the siting and construction of factory type destructors, one can even foresee the possibility of opposition to this type of disposal on the grounds of Town and Country Planning and yet it is true to say that every single person contributes in some way to the problem of collection and disposal of refuse.

Storm water gullies are emptied by a tanker trailer towed behind a tractor. The operation is by vacuum and is particularly efficient at a very low comparative cost rate.

Street cleaning is carried out daily in the central part of the Town. Mechanical sweeping is used on the longer stretches of road in the outlying parts of the Town and is satisfactory.

#### Rodent Control.

One of the Council's employees has been trained in the work of Rodent Control and part of his time is allocated to this work as he is required.

There is a total of 1,123 premises in the Urban Area comprising private houses, commercial, industrial and educational undertakings. Complaints of rodent infestation are dealt with as soon as they are received in the Office.

A total of 59 complaints were dealt with during the year.

In my last Annual Report, I remarked on apparent increase in the rat population in the area. It was decided to run a complete control in the particular section where this increase was most marked and a very satisfactory result was obtained by poisoning holes found in ditches bordering the marshes to the south and east of the town.

I must reiterate another statement made in the last Annual Report that whilst this Council does run a rodent control service, private householders can do much to help themselves, not only by using efficient baits and poisons themselves but also by not providing alternative food for rats - as an example the habit of throwing scraps of food on to a lawn as bird food is a deplorable habit unless the scraps are placed on bird tables where rats cannot gain access.

#### Disinfestation.

This service is available to the public, but it is pleasing to be able to report that the number of such calls have again decreased.

The general public are becoming increasingly aware of the dangers of fly infestation and are acting accordingly - it must however be stressed that whilst every effort must be continued in this direction, even greater efforts must be made to eradicate the sources of these pests, principally manure heaps - properly looked after, these are reasonably safe - but the proper place for manure in Urban areas is anywhere well away from houses.



### Food Premises.

There are 10 premises registered for the sale of ice cream in the area. No ice cream is manufactured in the area.

Four premises are registered for the manufacture of sausages.

There are 39 other food premises in the area and 103 inspections were carried out during the year. On four occasions there were unsatisfactory conditions, these were all rectified immediately.

The general standard of cleanliness and maintenance of these premises within the area is reasonably good but it must be stated that every employee must contribute to a good standard of hygiene within food premises, it is regrettable to have to record that with the modern fashion of long locks for males there appears to be a necessity for constant attention to the hair - combing etc. This can and must be done in the rest room - the alternative would appear to be to enforce the wearing of caps by both sexes employed on food premises.

### Meat and Food Inspection.

There is no slaughterhouse in the Urban area.

Once again it is pleasing to report that standards of storage and display are maintaining a high level, not only in the meat trade but also the other food premises. Far greater care is now being experienced in the display and sale of perishable foods. In addition the public, in appreciating this, are realising that by providing some form of refrigeration within their own homes for the storage of perishable foods, they are doing much to safeguard their own health. With the increasing number of houses which incorporate some form of central heating, it is now becoming almost imperative for some form of refrigeration to be provided, for the point must be made, that the more efficient the form of heating of the house, the greater the possibility of food not maintaining the freshness that is desirable.

### Housing.

During the year 73 houses were inspected, 18 were found to be unsatisfactory in some respect. In these cases the necessary works to remedy the defects were carried out.

Two Demolition Orders were secured comprising a total of seven houses.

One undertaking not to re-let a house which was unfit for human habitation was accepted.

14 new houses were built by the Local Authority.

33 new houses were built by private enterprise.

One family was re-housed from an unfit house.

One Discretionary Grant and nine Standard Grants were made during the year.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Part 1 of the Act

1. Inspection for purposes of provisions as to Health.

Premises  (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
1. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be en- forced by Local Authorities.....	6	21	Nil	Nil
2. Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.....	31	78	Nil	Nil
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (Ex- cluding out-workers' premises.....	8	17	Nil	Nil
Total.....	45	116	Nil	Nil



2. Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Want of cleanliness (S1). Overcrowding (S.2)..... Unreasonable Tempera- ture (S.3)..... Inadequate ventilation (S.4)..... Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)..... Sanitary Conveniences (S.7): (a) Insufficient..... (b) Unsuitable or de- fective..... (c) Not separate for sexes..... Other offences against the Act (Not including offences relating to Out-work).....	NIL				

Part VIII of the Act

Sections 133 and 134 - A NIL RETURN

OFFICES SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

The Registration of premises under the above Act has been continued and the following Statistics are submitted:-

Offices .. .. .	35
Retail Shops.. .. .	55
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses .. .. .	11
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens.. .. .	5
Fuel storage depots .. .. .	1
<u>Total number of visits made to Registered Premises .. .. .</u>	<u>167</u>
<u>Analysis of persons employed in Registered Premises by Workplaces:</u>	
Offices .. .. .	128
Retail Shops.. .. .	166
Wholesale departments, Warehouses. .. .. .	41
Catering establishments open to the public .. .. .	11
Canteens.. .. .	6
Fuel storage depots .. .. .	3
Total .. .. .	<u>355</u>
<u>Total Males.. .. .</u>	<u>182</u>
<u>Total Females .. .. .</u>	<u>173</u>

I am, Sirs and Madam,

Your obedient Servant,

F.W.Y. BUCKLEY,

Surveyor/Public Health Inspector.



